

May 23, 1958

Dr. Charles Yanofsky
Department of Microbiology
School of Medicine
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Stanford

Dear Charlie:

I'm sorry I didn't remember to discuss this with you when we met. Luca Cavalli, Esther and I have been working together here trying to get a good mapping of the Gal loci, with rather discouraging results for various technical reasons. We are now trying to adopt interrupted mating to the purpose. But the different mutants are so close together, and the frequency of multiple crossing-over is so high, that we still have troubles.

Luca found that at least one tryptophan mutant is fairly closely linked to Gal, and this would help us a great deal. But the one we're using (anthranilic⁻) is not too satisfactory on account of reversion. Also, it may not be the closest to the Gal region.

It might be especially helpful if we could try a variety of other tryptophane mutants, especially a deletion type. Could you send us a representative set? It would be a complicated matter to explain the optimal constellation of other markers. If you have any that are also TLB₁⁻, so much the better!

I don't doubt that any use we can extract for Gal mapping would be of some advantage to your tryptophane program - we will keep in close touch with you and you are of course welcome to any of the stocks we set up.

As Cavalli's visit is limited in time, I would especially appreciate it if you can help us out as soon as convenient.

There's no definite word yet from Alway; I hear he has been officially named as the Dean.

Yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Medical Genetics

JL/ew

YANOFSKY, C.